



FIRST THINGS FIRST

Ready for School. Set for Life.

**North Pima
Regional Director's Report
September 20, 2013**

Statewide Updates

- ❖ **Quality First's** long anticipated **launch** occurred in August. It included unveiling of star ratings for those programs that are in public rating phase. It also made available additional resources to aid families in selecting a high quality child care setting for their young children. Visit qualityfirstaz.com for more details.
- ❖ **The FTF State Board met** on August 27th in Phoenix. Major items included discussion of budget and allocation methodology, an update on the website launch for Quality First, and approvals of funding plan modifications and regional council applicants. Highlights will be sent from Communications team.
- ❖ The next Board meeting will take place September 30-October 1 in Phoenix. The FTF State Board meeting on **December 9-10** will be held in **Tucson**. Information on times and location forthcoming.

Regional Updates

- ❖ Michelle Katona is reviewing and analyzing the results of the **Regional Council Member Survey**. She will present a report to the FTF Board at their October meeting and her report will also be shared with the chairs and vice chairs at their Leadership Forum on October 10. Thank you for taking the time to provide valuable feedback.
- ❖ North Pima has selected indicators 1, 2, 3, 8, and 10 for which to set **benchmarks**. The **timeline** for release of data which correlates to each indicator has been modified and will delay the benchmarking process for select indicators. Data will not be available for indicator 1 in time to set benchmarks this fiscal year. The University of Arizona will conduct the analysis of the Family and Community Survey data and we do not anticipate having indicator 10 data until early 2014, so the benchmark will be proposed to the Board in June 2014 rather than April. The timeline will mean the regional council sets the benchmark in February, conducts public vetting in March, revises and approves the benchmark in April for Board approval in June. Data for indicators 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, and 8 are expected to remain on the original timeline and benchmarks should be sent to the Board in April 2014. This means the public vetting process will need to occur in January.
- ❖ **Donelson Consulting**, the team tasked with completing the **Needs and Assets Report** for the region, is aware of the North Pima and Central Pima boundary consolidation, in addition to the zip code swap with South Pima that the FTF Board approved in June. Staff is working closely with Donelson to identify the best way to **reflect the boundary changes** in the 2014 Needs and Assets Reports.

Upcoming Events

- ❖ September 24-25: Strong Families Arizona Home Visitors Conference, Mesa Marriott and Convention Center
- ❖ September 26: Southeast Area Regional Grantee Coordination Meeting, Westside Police Service Center, 9:30-11:30am
- ❖ September 27: Pima Cross Regional Benchmarking Workgroup, FTF Tucson Regional Office, 1-4pm
- ❖ September 30-October 1: FTF Board Meeting, Phoenix
- ❖ October 5: Southern Arizona Association for the Education of Young Children SAzAEYC Annual Conference, University of Arizona Student Union